

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, April 18, 1877, with transcript

Boston, April 18th, 1877. My darling May,

I write a few lines to let you know of a great discovery made by Mr. Watson which if followed up will lead to very great simplification on the part of the Telephone with perfect distinctness.

The iron membrane was glued solidly against a block of wood an inch in thickness , and we then spoke against the wood itself. Articulation was perfectly audible at the other end of the line and with perfect distinctness .

The success of the experiment settles conclusively that the vibration which we utilize is molecular — and puts us therefore on the right track to develop the Telephone. Shall write again tonight.

Your loving Alec. Miss Mabel Hubbard 10 E. 14th St., New York